| 004002-003430.DAC.293286 Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  |         |                          |  |                    |             |   |  |
|--|---------|--------------------------|--|--------------------|-------------|---|--|
| & TRADE  |         |                          | Application Number   | 10/717,693         |             |   |  |
| TRANSMITTAL  |         |                          | Filing Date  | November 20, 2003  |             |   |  |
| FORM   |         |                          | First Named Inventor   | Hai H. Trieu       |             |   |  |
| (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)   |         |                          | Art Unit   | 3738               |             |   |  |
|  |         |                          | Examiner Name  |                    |             |   |  |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission   |         |                          | Attorney Docket Number   | 4002-3430/PC775.01 |             |   |  |
| ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)  |         |                          |  |                    |             |   |  |
| ☐ Fee Transmitta   | al Form | ☐ Dr                     | awings   |                    |             | After Allowance communication to Group                            |  |
| Fee Attached   |         | Licensing-related Papers |  |                    |             | Appeal Communication to Board of<br>Appeals and Interferences     |  |
| ☐ Amendment/Reply  |         |                          | Petition   |                    |             | Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) |  |
| ☐ After Final [  |         |                          | Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application               |                    |             | Proprietary Information   |  |
| ☐ Affidavits/declaration(s)  |         |                          | Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address |                    |             | Status Letter   |  |
| Extension of Time Request  |         | Terminal Disclaimer      |  |                    | $\boxtimes$ | Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):                       |  |
| Express Abandonment Request  |         | Request for Refund       |  | _                  | X           | Inform. Discl. Citation   |  |
| Suppl. Information Disclosure  |         | C                        | D, Number of CD(s)   | J                  | Х           | 1 cited foreign ref.  |  |
| Statement  |         |                          |  |                    | X           | Copy of co-pending App. 10/717,684                                |  |
| Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)   |         | Remar                    | ks   | •                  | X           | Copy of International Search Rpt                                  |  |
| Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application   |         |                          |  |                    |             |   |  |
| Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53  |         | !                        |  |                    |             |   |  |
| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT   |         |                          |  |                    |             |   |  |
| Firm or Douglas A. Collier   |         |                          |  |                    |             |   |  |
| 7/201/   |         |                          | briarty, McNett & Henry LLP                                    |                    |             |   |  |
| 7 -  |         | <del>DUS</del>           | Michael & Henry LLP //   |                    |             |   |  |
| Date   July 16, 2004   U   |         |                          |  |                    |             |   |  |
| CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING  |         |                          |  |                    |             |   |  |
| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below |         |                          |  |                    |             |   |  |
| Typed or printed name   Douglas A. Collier   |         |                          |  |                    |             |   |  |
| Constant   |         |                          |  |                    |             |   |  |

Signature

Date

July 16, 2004

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Before the Examiner application of:

Hai H. Trieu

Serial No. 10/717,693

Filed November 20, 2003

SYSTEMS AND TECHNIQUES FOR INTRAVERTEBRAL SPINE

STABILIZATION WITH EXPANDABLE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Before the Examiner

Group Art Unit 3738

Atty Docket No. 4002-3430/PC775.01

## SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

July 16, 2004

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**DEVICES** 

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure embodied in 37 C.F.R § 1.56 and 1.98,

Applicant discloses the following references on the attached Supplemental Information

Disclosure Citation Form. This information is not believed to have been previously submitted in this application by the applicants.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

July 16, 2004

(Date of Deposit)

Douglas A. Collier

Name of Registered Representative

Signature

July 16, 2004

Date of Signature

Also enclosed herewith is a copy of co-pending and commonly owned U.S. Patent Application Ser. No. 10/717,684. In addition, a copy of an International Search Report from PCT application PCT US03/37181, a counterpart to the '684 application enclosed herewith, is enclosed to provide a concise statement regarding the relevance of the foreign language reference (WO 01/19295) enclosed herewith. The enclosed search report is directed to the claims of the '684 application enclosed herewith.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56 or that any information cited is prior art.

This Statement is being submitted before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits. Therefore no fees are believed due for consideration of the disclosed references. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

Respectfully submitted

Douglas A. Collier

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INECRMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION Atty. Docket No. Serial No. 10/717,693 4002-3430/PC775.01 (Use several sheets if necessary) Applicant Hai H. Trieu Sheet 1 of 1 Filing Date Group 11/20/2003 **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS** DOCUMENT DATE NAME **CLASS SUBCLASS** Filing Date \*Examiner NUMBER If appropriate Initial 10/717,684 Trieu 11/20/2003  $\overline{2}$ 5,171,278 12/1992 Pisharodi 3 5,390,683 02/1995 Pisharodi 4 5,423,850 06/1995 Berger 5 5,480,400 01/1996 Berger 5,785,647 07/1998 Tompkins et al. 6 7 6,039,761 03/2000 Li et al. 8 6,676,665 01/2004 Foley et al. 9 2002/0026197 02/2002 Foley et al. 2004/0097930 05/2004 Justis et al. 10

004002-003430.DAC.293036

<sup>\*</sup>Examiner: initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.